

### REMARKS

Claim 18 is amended. Claims 1-17, 21-22, 25-45, and 47-61 are cancelled. Support for the amendment to Claim 18 is found in the specification in the originally-filed claims. No new matter is believed to be introduced by the above-mentioned amendment.

Claims 18-20, 23-24, and 46 are pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the above amendment and the remarks.

At the outset, Applicants thank Examiner Chakrabarti for indicating during a brief discussion of the present application over the telephone that the above amendments would appear to obviate the outstanding rejections in the Office Action. Further, Applicants thank Examiner Chakrabarti for indicating that Claims 19 and 20 are allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. It should be noted that the base claim, i.e., Claim 18, has been amended herewith in order to obviate the outstanding 112 rejections.

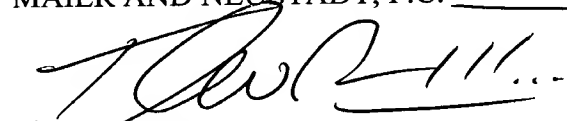
Claims 18, 23, 24, and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. To support the rejections, the Examiner notes that subsection (c) and (dt) of Claim 18 have been deleted, producing a subsection (et) that appears vague and indefinite. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, Applicants have amended Claim 18 to remove "(dt)" with --(bt)--. Accordingly subsection (et) of Claim 18 refers to subsection (at) and subsection (bt); and therefore are clear and definite. Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that this appears to be the only ground of rejection which has now been clearly obviated by the above-mentioned amendment. Further, Applicants thank the Examiner for withdrawing all rejections based upon previously-cited

prior art. Finally, Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is respectfully requested. Should anything further be required to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER AND NEUSTADT, P.C. \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Norman F. Oblon', written over a horizontal line.

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